



January 2019 Narrative Report

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Upcoming Events:

- Jan. 4th – Staff Planning Mtg.
- Jan. 7th – Ag Safety Day Mtg.
- Jan. 8th – Co. Supervisor Update
- Jan. 8th – College Career Readiness School Enrichment, E-M
- Jan. 9-10th – Library Innovation Studio Training
- Jan. 14th – Cow/Calf College
- Jan. 14th – Clay Co. 4-H Council
- Jan. 15th – College Career Readiness School Enrichment, E-M
- Jan. 15th – Odegeo Presentation
- Jan. 15th – Fillmore Co. 4-H Council
- Jan. 16th – Judge FFA LDEs
- Jan. 17th – STEM Careers Zoom Mtg.
- Jan. 18th – Progress for Promotion Mtg.
- Jan. 20th – Clay Co. 4-H Open House
- Jan. 21st – Teach at YorkMLK19 Teacher In-service
- Jan. 22-23rd – 4-H In-Service
- Jan. 24th – Library Innovation Studio Training
- Jan. 25th – Soil is Not a Dirty Word, SE, FCES
- Jan. 25th – Innovative Youth Corn Challenge Banquet
- Jan. 26th – 4-H Beef Weigh-In
- Jan. 28th – Feb. 1st – NELD Conference, Chicago

Crops – Innovative Cropping Systems

In collaboration with Brad Schick, beef educator, the **Cow/Calf College** program was held January 14th with 69 people in attendance. Topics presented were confined animal facility operation requirements, cover crop forage options, cow reproductive research and animal husbandry practices. I also presented on handling stress in difficult ag economic times and provided resources to participants. Due to the government shut-down, we held the program at the Clay County Fairgrounds.



In December, I hosted an update for CAFOs from the **Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality** in which 12 producers attended in Geneva. I also participated in the private pesticide training update and was on the 10/11 **Pure Nebraska** Extension segment for promotion of the Cow/Calf College.

Crops – Youth (STEM-career team)

I have been reviewing team reports and preparing for the **Innovative Youth Corn Challenge (IYCC)** banquet to be held January 25th. Seven teams were successful in completing their projects. I submitted another grant to the Nebraska Corn Board for continuation of this project. One parent recently emailed me, "Thanks for everything you do. The kids did an ag demo on corn growth; unfortunately one member of the team went to fast and they were under time but we are all so impressed with their knowledge and it wouldn't have happened without all these years involved in the (IYCC) challenge and (YSCS) contest."

4-H Youth Development

I taught two **College and Career Readiness** lessons to nine Exeter-Milligan sixth graders. Youth explored the career clusters and took a career





assessment and will have four more classes taught in collaboration between Rachel and I. I taught **Soil is Not a Dirty Word** school enrichment to the Fillmore Central second grade classroom. This will be the third year of teaching this program which fits their curricula. I also judged FFA Leadership Development Event ag literacy speech contest.

The **Clay County 4-H Open House** was held with great success thanks to Deanna and Holli. Youth were able to sign up for shooting sports and participate in hands-on activities. I focused on the plant sciences with a “Garden Bingo” game I created. Both **4-H Councils** met to reorganize for the year which included an educational update from our district 4-H coordinator, Maria Walker joining via the web.

The Geneva Public Library received an **Innovation Studio** grant through the Nebraska Library Commission which our office is involved. As a result, Rachel and I went to a two-day training at Innovation Campus to learn more about running the equipment and the expectations of the program. Machines were installed at the end of January and we will focus our 4-H educational workshops around the Innovation Studio at the library this year.

I hosted a **Progressive Agriculture Safety Day** planning for the committee. This year’s program will be held May 23rd. I was asked to present on **Igniting Sparks** for youth at the MLK19 teacher in-service held at the York High School; six teachers from five schools attended my session.

Professional Development or Organizational Citizenship

I continue to serve on the **SREC/Metro District Promotion Committee**. We reviewed promotion files for educators and reviewed other educators Activity Insights to provide peer feedback. In December, I coordinated a “Meet & Greet” with Senator Dave Murman from Legislative District 38 since he lives in Clay County. I participated in the “Meet & Greet” for Senator Tom Brandt in District 32 as well. I taught the Fillmore County **Odegeo** leadership participants basic leadership principles related to change and also how to ask powerful questions.

News Columns/Blogs

Jan. 3rd – Cow/Calf College

Jan. 9th – Crop Production Clinic

Jan. 16th – This is 4-H

Jan. 23rd – Managing Ag Land

Jan. 30th – Annie’s Inspired